

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method is provided for asymmetrically compressing data communicated between a ground platform and multiple airborne platforms. The method includes packet compressing ground-based data so as to preserve routing information while compressing the remaining data. The packet-compressed data is then transmitted to the airborne platforms. The method also includes bulk compressing airborne-based data so as to maximize compression and minimize use of available bandwidth. The bulk-compressed data is then transmitted to the ground platform.